

backed, which latter I have taken while singing, contrary to the statement made that while here they have only a low, soft call-note.

That so large a number of errors should have crept in is to be deplored, especially as many seem to be easily avoidable, but that the work will be of the greatest service to the class for whom it is intended cannot be doubted, many ornithologically-inclined friends having inquired anxiously for its appearance, as it was just what they needed to aid them in the study of our birds.—W. E. SAUNDERS.

Stejneger on the Species of *Pardalotus*.*—This paper relates especially to the forms recognized by Mr. Sharpe (Cat. Bds. Brit. Mus., X, 1885, p. 54) as *Pardalotus ornatus*, *P. assimilis*, and *P. affinis*, *assimilis* being here considered as a subspecies of *affinis*. A 'Key to the Species' of this genus is appended, of which eight and one subspecies are recognized, seven of which are represented in the collection of the National Museum.—J. A. A.

Stejneger on Two European Thrushes.—Dr. Stejneger, in a paper † of eight pages, maintains the existence in Europe of two species of Ring-Ouzel, namely, the 'Northern Ring-Ouzel' (*Turdus torquatus* auct.), and the 'Alpine Ring-Ouzel' (*Turdus alpestris* Brehm); the first a northern-breeding bird, migrating south in winter; the other supposed to breed in the high mountains of Central and Southern Europe. The two forms occur together in winter, and have been hitherto confounded by nearly all writers, although well distinguished by Brehm. He says: "It has been the unfortunate fashion to sneer at the species and subspecies of Brehm, and the simple fact that a name was established by him has been sufficient reason to ignore it altogether and to put it into the synonymy without further investigation. This is not only injustice to Brehm's honest labor and his extreme power of discrimination, but it has resulted in absolute injury to science."—J. A. A.

Stejneger on Japanese Birds.—In the 'Proceedings' of the U. S. National Museum Dr. Stejneger continues his 'Review of Japanese Birds,' ‡ Part II treating of the ' Tits and Nuthatches,' and Part III of the ' Rails, Gallinules, and Coots.' In the first paper six species of *Parus* are recognized, two of *Ægithalos*, one of *Remiza* (gen. nov.), and one of *Sitta*, with two additional subspecies, one of which (*Sitta amurensis clara*) is described as new. Synopses are given of the genera and species, the synonymy is

* Notes on Species of the Australian Genus *Pardalotus*. By Leonhard Stejneger. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1886, pp. 294-296. (Dated Oct. 19, 1886; received by the reviewer Feb. 14, 1887.)

† On *Turdus alpestris* and *Turdus torquatus*, two distinct species of European Thrushes. By Leonhard Stejneger. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1886, pp. 365-373. (Dated Oct. 30, 1886; received by the reviewer Feb. 14, 1887.)

‡ Review of Japanese Birds. By Leonard Stejneger. II.—Tits and Nuthatches. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1886, pp. 374-394. III. Rails, Gallinules, and Coots. *Ibid.*, pp. 395-408. (Dated "Oct. 20, 1886"; received by the reviewer Feb. 14, 1887.)